

## **ABSTRACT**

Methods are provided wherein the survival of an organ transplant is enhanced by introducing into cells of the transplant a nucleic acid molecule that modulates heme oxygenase-I activity therein. Nucleic acid molecules that modulate heme oxygenase-I activity and therefore find use in the described methods include, for example, molecules that encode a polypeptide that itself exhibits heme oxygenase-I activity or antisense oligonucleotides that act to inhibit heme oxygenase-I activity in a cell.